From: <u>Benjamin-Sirmons, Denise</u>

To: 2017HQfirstassistants; Jackson, Ryan; Associate Administrators; 2017Regionfirstassistants; DAA-Career; DRA:

ARA; OARM-OAM-ALL; OARM-OAM-CCRC; OARM-OAM-RAMS; OARM-OAM-RCO; OARM-OAM-SACO; OARM-OAM-OAM-SACO; OARM-OAM-SACO; OARM-O

JRO; Small Business Coordinators; OSDBU Staff

Subject: Small Business Goals & Disaster Recovery Contracting

Date: Monday, September 11, 2017 3:03:10 PM

Attachments: AA-GCBD MEMO TO SBPAC OSDBUS and SAE ON EMERGENCY DISASTER PROCEDURES 20....pdf

image001.png image003.png

Good afternoon Small Business Champions!

We are now just three weeks away from the end of the fiscal year and unfortunately have lost ground to make up. The agency's <u>Pilot Small Business Contracting Dashboard</u> shows that as of Friday, September 8, 2017, the EPA-wide overall small business percentage of total EPA contract dollars fell to 37.7%, down almost one full percent from the same time the week before.

I ask that offices please step up *Small Business First* efforts to help the agency achieve the established FY 2017 40% small business goal (and continue existing momentum in expanding opportunities in the remaining four socio-economic goals). Kudos go to the following Superstars for currently meeting at least four of the five goals:

- **Region 4** for achieving five goals.
- OARM, ORD and Regions 6 & 7 for achieving four goals.

Finally, we all remain incredibly proud and grateful of the agency's tremendous response efforts in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Last week the Office of Acquisition Management issued a Flash Notice announcing Special Emergency Acquisition Flexibilities to obtain contractor support for the disaster and emergency assistance activities. As offices take advantage of those flexibilities, please keep in mind the continuing imperative to utilize small businesses to the maximum extent practicable.

Last week, the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization shared the attached U.S. Small Business Administration Memorandum, providing guidance on existing emergency acquisition authorities. The memorandum highlights available sole-source mechanisms and resources for leveraging small business capabilities, agility and innovation for rapid and effective response to the unprecedented disasters.

OSDBU is ready, willing and able to assist offices in identifying small business sources and acquisition strategies for the agency's emergency response operations. Please contact Lamont Norward at 202-566-2933 for further information and assistance.

Denise Benjamin Sirmons, Director Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization U.S. Environmental Protection Agency P: 202-564-6771; F: 202-566-1505

"Small Business First"